

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-398-W/S - ORDER NO. 97-832

SEPTEMBER 25, 1997

✓ MR

IN RE: Application for Approval of the Transfer ) ORDER  
of Pier 96 Water & Sewer System to the ) APPROVING  
Town of Ninety-Six Commissioners of ) TRANSFER  
Public Works. )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of the Town of Ninety-Six Commissioners of Public Works (Ninety-Six) requesting approval of the transfer to its jurisdiction of the Pier 96 Water & Sewer system. Further, Ninety-Six requests that the Notice of Hearing and Hearing be waived in this matter.

It appears that the Pier 96 Water & Sewer system have been very problematic, and that the residents served by the Pier 96 systems have not always received proper service. At times, Duke Power Company, who provides electricity to run the sewer pumps, has come close to cutting the power because of failure of the owner of the system to pay the electric bill.

Ninety-Six notes that John Peake, the current owner of the system, and his attorney are in the process of deeding the system's lines to them. Further, Ninety-Six has provided actual personal notice to the citizens of the area, and has held group meetings with them. We note that we have not received any

opposition to the Ninety-Six proposal. We also note that the citizens will not see a rate increase as the result of the transfer, should the transfer be approved.

As the result of the notices provided to the residents, and the fact that group meetings were held with them to discuss their concerns, we hereby waive the notice and hearing requirements of Regulation 103-504 and 103-704, pursuant to the waiver provisions of 103-501 and 103-701. These latter Regulations state that when compliance with the Regulations introduces unusual difficulty, such regulations may be waived by the Commission upon a finding by the Commission that such waiver is in the public interest.

Truly, we believe that a waiver of the notice and hearing provisions is in the public interest in this case. The citizens are entitled to appropriate service as soon as possible, and we will do nothing to delay it. We believe that the citizens have been noticed and have had an opportunity to be heard in this matter.


Likewise, we think that the acquisition of the Pier 96 Water & Sewer system by the Commissioners of Public Works of Ninety-Six is in the public interest. No longer should the residents of the area be afraid that they will lose their service for failure to pay the electric bill. Further, the acquisition of the system means that the citizens will receive good utility services. We also note that no increase in rates will result from the transfer. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1) The transfer of the Pier 96 Water & Sewer system to the Town of Ninety-Six Commissioners of Public Works is hereby approved.

2) This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Executive Director  
(SEAL)